

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CD
10/23/02
#8

Application of: T. WILFORD *et al.*

Application No.: 09/839,562

Group Art Unit: 3751

Filed: April 20, 2001

Examiner: A. Kokabi

For: GRAFT FIXATION SYSTEM
AND METHOD

Attorney Docket No.: 8932-268

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 18, 2002, Applicants elect the invention of Group I – claims 1-20 and 24 drawn to a fixation device for securing one end of a graft to bone – for prosecution in this application. Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications to protect the inventions of Group II.

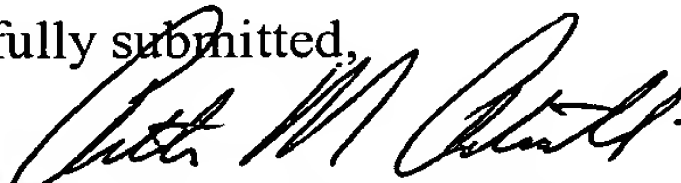
Applicants provisionally elect Species B, as depicted in Fig. 7 for prosecution at this time, with the understanding that the claims shall be restricted to this species only if no claim that is generic to Species A, C, and D is finally held to be allowable. The following claims are believed to be readable on Species B: 1, 3, 5, 7-15, 17-20, and 24.

Among these claims, Applicants believe that claims 1, 7-11, 17-20, and 24 are generic to Species A, B, C, and D.

No fee is believed to be due for this submission. Should any fees be required, please charge such fees to Pennie & Edmonds Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

Date October 18, 2002


For: BRIAN M. ROTHERY

Arthur M. Antonelli Reg. No. 51,410
For: Brian M. Rothery Reg. No. 35,340

PENNIE & EDMONDS LLP
1667 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-4400